



THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED

In re Application of: Arthur S. HASELTINE

OCT 05 2001

Application No.: 09/752,980

Examiner: not yet known

Technology Center 2100

Filed: December 29, 2000

Art Unit: 2161

For: METHOD AND SYSTEM PROVIDING OUT-SOURCED,  
MERCANDISE RETURN SERVICES

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(a)  
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS  
BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL  
SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE  
ADDRESSED TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR  
PATENTS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

ON 10-1-01

Signed Jameson Bay

REGISTRATION NO. 35064

DATE 10-1-01

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Attn: Box Non-Fee Amendment

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application, prior to examination, as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Cancel claim 5, without prejudice.

Add new claims 14-20 as follows. No new matter is added.

*full 1/2* -- *N 15* An out-sourced merchandise-return system for a plurality of remote merchandisers,  
comprising:

a plurality of remote merchandisers providing merchandise which when purchased is forwarded along with an input record that is associable with further information;  
a distributed purchasing public of any of the remote merchandisers' merchandise;